



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Information

Press Service



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STATES CONSENT TO FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF REFUGE AREAS

Since the approval of the Migratory-Bird Conservation Act on February 18, 1929, two States, Kansas and Montana, have given consent to the acquisition of lands by the Federal Government for refuge purposes under the new law, according to information received by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, which will administer the act.

Section 7 of the Migratory-Bird Conservation Act provides that no deed shall be accepted by the Secretary of Agriculture unless the State in which the refuge area lies shall have consented by law to the acquisition by the United States of lands in that State. The Kansas enabling act was approved on February 26 and the one in Montana on March 1.

These two States are the first to take special action in the matter, although it has been determined that existing legislation in the States of Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Wyoming is sufficient for the Federal Government to proceed with the acquisition of areas for refuge purposes. State enabling legislation, however, will be necessary in all other States. In those States where legislation in harmony with the Federal act is required, a draft of a suitable measure has been prepared for consideration by the State legislatures holding sessions this year.

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